

# RAMPS

for balance biking

## DIY explainer

### Why:

Ramps help master riding a balance bike. Balance is key, and a rolling bike is necessary for balance on two wheels.

Learning to push the balance bike fast enough to roll at a steady speed takes time and practice. Often times new riders keep their feet on the ground too much. Adding a ramp to the practice space allows the rider to push to the top of the ramp, lift feet, and roll down. The speed requires the rider to keep their feet off of the ground. Riders see it as a challenge that makes butterflies in their tummy! Wheeee!



### How:

We started with 3/4" or 5/8" plywood, each piece is 24" wide x 60" long. We set the saw blade depth at half of the plywood thickness, then made straight line cuts every 1" across the short dimension, extending one foot on each side of center of the long dimension. This allowed the plywood to bend. For the under structure, we tried two different styles using 2" x 4", 2" x 3", and 2" x 2". We minimized the overall size and under structure framing to reduce total weight. Notice that the under structure does not touch the ground, allowing the structural grade plywood to contact the riding surface. We countersunk all screw heads, sanded all edges, primed, and painted. The max. 4-5" height allowed for riders to catch themselves if they went off of the side. Each ramp weighs approximately 26 pounds.

